

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 15563 120314Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01
INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-20 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06
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CEA-01 L-03 H-02 CTME-00 ITC-01 DOE-15 SOE-02
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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8324
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 15563

PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD; ALSO FOR USEC
PASS TREASURY FOR US CUSTOMS SERVICE/SPECIAL CUSTOMS
STEEL TASK FORCE/ROSETTIE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EIND, BE
SUBJECT: TRIGGER PRICE MECHANISM: WEEKLY BELGIAN STEEL
REPORT AND PRICE LISTING

REF: BRUSSELS 15222 AND PREVIOUS

1. ACCORDING TO THE BRUSSELS ECHO DE LA BOURSE IN ITS
AUGUST 9 ISSUE, EXPORT PRICES FOR STEEL FOR THE WEEK OF
AUGUST 9 REMAIN UNCHANGED FROM THOSE PRICES SHOWN FOR
AUGUST 2 (REPORTED REFTEL).

2. THE AUGUST 10 ISSUE OF LA LIBRE BELGIQUE WRITING ON
STEEL PRODUCTION HAS THE FOLLOWING COMMENT:
"BELGIAN PRODUCTION OF STEEL HAS VERY MUCH BEEN INFLUENCED
BY THE VACATION PRRIOD. ACCORDINGLY, IT WAS WEAK IN JULY.
THE PRECEEDING MONTH,IT WAS INFLUENCED BY THE EFFECTS OF
STRIKES."

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"IT IS THUS THAT IN JULY 1978 BELGIUM PRODUCED ONLY
828,679 TONS OF STEEL BARS AGAINST 831,448 TONS THE
PREVIOUS MONTH AND 880,238 TONS IN JULY OF 1977. THE
DAILY AVERAGE FOR JULY 1978 (FOR 25 WORKING DAYS)
INCREASED TO A 33,147 TONS IN CONTRAST TO 31,979 TONS
IN JUNE AND 35,210 TONS FOR JULY THE PREVIOUS YEAR."
"DURING THE PERIOD OF THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1978,

BELGIUM HAS THUS PRODUCED 7,010,404 TONS OF STEEL BARS,
THAT IS 248,047 TONS OR 3.7 PERCENT MORE THAN THE
6,762,375 TONS PRODUCED FROM JANUARY TILL JULY 1977.(SIC)
"THE MARKET FOR OVERSEAS EXPORTS CONTINUES TO ENJOY
FAIRLY ABUNDANT DEMAND, PRINCIPALY IN MILLED PRODUCTS.
PRICES REMAIN FIRM. HOWEVER DUE TO THE WEAKNESS OF
THE DOLLAR, PRICE QUOTES IN BELGIAN FRANCS REMAIN
UNCHANGED."

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED BY
DEPARTMENT WHETHER IT WISHES TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE
REPORTS ALONG THE ABOVE LINE. PLEASE ADVISE.
CHAMBERS

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NNN

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